



LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY

School of Pharmacy NEWS CAPSULE

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From the Dean...

I've just returned from the Fall University Convocation, and from the many words spoken in celebration of the opening of the Centennial Complex, I came to a rapid conclusion—our School of Pharmacy can anticipate many good things to come. Just consider that two of the eight schools at Loma Linda University have histories going back 100 years or more! The School of Nursing celebrated their centennial in 2005, and this year marks the School of Medicine's 100th Anniversary. Examples from these two legacy schools bode well for the School of Pharmacy—proposed by the Administration in 1994; approved by Board of Trustees in 1996 with Dr. Bart Rippon, inaugural dean; and accepted the first class of 34 students in 2002 under the leadership of Dr. Avis Ericson, administrative dean. In May 2009 a fourth class was graduated with their PharmD. Just imagine the School of Pharmacy requires 96 more trips around the sun en route to our 100th anniversary. The good news is that every journey begins with the first step...and we've taken four! In my last message I spoke of processes that have been put in place to insure that our centennial journey will be successful—remember, CQI. Again, you'll see a dashboard that graphically presents some of the metrics



that we frequently reference to make sure we're on track for success. As is evident, NAPLEX pass rates, CPJE and MPJE pass rates, and graduate's commitments to wholeness are doing well. And, as promised in the last Capsule Message from the Dean, you, as alumni, were challenged to move the alumni philanthropy gauge into the green...wow, are you moving the needle! This past year saw a 26% increase in the number of alumni giving and a 753% increase in the total amount given! There are now Class of 2008 and Class of 2009 Endowed Scholarships, and the Stephen Chan Endowed Scholarship. Just a note: remember calculations from Dr. Mack? I'm thinking that Dr. Mack himself will want to take a refresher on calculations as he has personally committed to matching dollar-for-dollar alumni donations to endowment funds through June 30, 2010. What was Dr. Mack thinking? Please continue to do great things that reflect the highest aspirations of your alma mater. Your continued commitment to the mission and values of Loma Linda

University will insure our collective future successes. Considering that Loma Linda University now has over 42,000 alumni, our School of Pharmacy Alumni numbers are small, but we're well positioned as healthcare providers to do great service! Continued success!



J.M. Long Foundation awards \$100,000 for new pharmacy in simulation center

The J.M. Long Foundation recently awarded Loma Linda University (LLU) \$100,000 to sponsor the new pharmacy in the simulation center of the soon-to-be-opened Centennial Complex. According to Billy Hughes, PhD, dean of the LLU School of Pharmacy, the

grant was awarded on June 11, 2009.

"We are very grateful for the generosity of The J.M. Long Foundation," Dean Hughes stated. "The simulation center pharmacy will help fulfill recommendations of the Institute of Medicine, Western Association of Schools and Colleges,

and the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education that we provide learning opportunities that promote interdisciplinary education. The simulation center pharmacy will allow School of Pharmacy students to train with students from the

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J.M. Long Foundation awards \$100,000 to School

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Schools of Allied Health, Medicine, and Nursing that will closely parallel what pharmacists face in the real world.”

In the new pharmacy, students will gain practical, firsthand experience in dealing with drug overdoses, developing effective strategies to reduce medication errors, and preventing adverse drug interactions. Dean Hughes noted that these learning scenarios are “highly relevant” in today’s pharmacy practice, and says it is “critical for our students to learn in an environment like this that promotes exploration and instant feedback.”

The simulation center pharmacy will also allow members of the School of Pharmacy faculty and the more than 100 staff pharmacists at Loma Linda University Medical Center to enhance their clinical skills during special training programs and seminars that will be offered there from time to time. “This valuable training tool will benefit seasoned professionals as well as students,” Dean Hughes added.

The J.M. Long Foundation was created in 1966 as a way for Joe Long, co-founder of Longs Drug Stores, to give back to others. One of nine children, Joe was born in 1912 in Covelo, a small agricultural town in Northern California’s Mendocino County, where he worked with his father in a general store and absorbed his mother’s discourses on the responsibility to help others. After high school, Joe and his brother, Tom, hitched a ride on a milk truck to attend the University of California at Berkeley. In 1932, he graduated in political science and went on to serve as assistant city manager for Berkeley. He later became founding chairman of California

State Parks Foundation. Over his lifetime, Mr. Long embarked on many different business ventures in hospitality, natural resource, and drugstore retail management.

As Chairman of the Board of Longs Drug Stores, J.M. Long recalled the importance of his mother’s admonitions about caring for one’s fellow man. “We go through this life but once,” he said. “If there is anything we can do, or help that we can give, let us do it now, because we may not pass this way again.”

According to Jackie Gilstrap, campaigns major gifts officer for the Loma Linda University office of phi-

lanthropy, “We are grateful for all the support we receive from around the world, however we are especially grateful to those organizations, such as the J.M. Long Foundation, who exemplify the spirit of Philanthropy for the next generations. It is thrilling that the medical simulation pharmacy has been made possible by The J.M. Long Foundation.”

Billy Hughes couldn’t agree more. “We can’t thank The J.M. Long Foundation enough for partnering with us to enhance the future of pharmaceutical education in the Inland Empire,” he concluded.



Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy officials Billy Hughes, (second from left), Reza Taheri, and Jim Pinder join LLU Health Services construction superintendent Robert Cole (left) for a visit in the hall outside the new simulation center pharmacy at the new Centennial Complex. Billy Hughes, PhD, is dean of the School of Pharmacy; Reza Taheri, PharmD, chairs the department of pharmacotherapy and outcomes science; and Jim Pinder, JD, MBA, is director of development and alumni affairs, and assistant professor of pharmacy law, for the School of Pharmacy.



Serber family loan enhances pharmacy display at library

Larry and Donna Serber of Garden Grove, California, proudly exhibit some of the historical pharmacy and apothecary items they recently loaned to Loma Linda University for a display inside the Del W. Webb Memorial Library. The arrangement replicates a painting by American artist Robert Thom entitled, “America’s First Hospital Pharmacy (about 1755),” a copy of which is included in the installment on the first floor of the library. In addition to the bottles and storage vials seen in the photograph, other featured items—all of which are authentic from the time of the Revolutionary War—include an elegant set of scales, a chair, feather writing plume and inkwell, assorted botanical preparations, a mortar and pestle, and related compounding tools. “We are very grateful to the Serber’s for sharing their important historical collection with us,” noted Billy Hughes, PhD, dean of the LLU School of Pharmacy. “It’s fascinating to see how much the art and science of the pharmaceutical profession has evolved to serve the needs of patients over the years—so similar, and yet so different.”

School of Pharmacy has its first HIV specialist

Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy has its first HIV specialist. Jerika Lam, PharmD, assistant professor at the School of Pharmacy, received her certification from the American Academy of HIV Medicine (AAHIVM) in January 2009.

The AAHIVM first opened the certification to pharmacy professionals in 2008.

“I believe it is important to become certified by this national

entity that advocates for optimal treatment and promotes research in HIV,” said Dr. Lam.

HIV certification signifies the expertise and experience of a medical or pharmaceutical professional in treating HIV-positive patients.

It is given by AAHIVM only to those who can pass a 125-question exam, have conducted HIV clinical practice for at least three years, and completed 30 hours of continuing

medical education.

Dr. Lam works as a clinical pharmacist and HIV expert for the Desert AIDS Project, Riverside Neighborhood Health Center, and the Perris Family Care Center.

“Obtaining the AAHIVM certification is an achievement that signifies the standards of professional medical and pharmaceutical care for HIV-positive patients,” said Dr. Lam.

Pharmacy professors help transplant patients kick smoking

Two Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy (LLUSP) professors have an exciting new mission on their hands: to help patients of the Transplantation Institute at Loma Linda University Medical Center (LLUMC) prepare for organ transplantation by kicking the smoking habit.

The duo—Linda Davis, PharmD, and Hyma Gogineni, PharmD—completed requirements for the tobacco treatment specialist certificate from the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. “We worked very closely with expert physicians here at Loma Linda including Dr. David Sachs, Dr. John Hodgkins, and Dr. Linda Ferry,” Dr. Gogineni explained, “to gain more insight into the field of tobacco dependence treatment.”

“Our job is to motivate patients to stop smoking, give them the tools to counteract withdrawal symptoms and cravings, and help them understand that they are equipped to stay smoke-free for the rest of their lives,” Dr. Davis asserted. “We discuss the medication choices and prescribe the medications best-suited for their individual needs. Part of the intake session also includes educating them about the science of addiction. People tend to think of smoking as just a bad habit, but nicotine is actually as addictive as heroin.”

“That seems extreme,” Dr. Gogineni added, “but it’s true. Nicotine is as addictive as heroin. I think it’s very important for people to realize that it is like other addictions, and that using just one over-the-counter drug nicotine replacement therapy medication—patch, gum, or lozenge—is usually not enough.”

Dr. Davis agreed. “Combination treatment—including a nicotine patch and a fast-acting nicotine replacement product for withdrawal symptoms—is the treatment of choice for most of our patients.

She pointed out that the new Clinic for Tobacco Independence at the Transplantation Institute offers patients in

need of organ transplants three benefits.

“First,” she said, “stopping this addictive behavior decreases the likelihood of cardiovascular events including heart attack and stroke. Second, it improves their eligibility for organ transplantation. Finally, it speeds the recovery process by fostering post-surgical wound healing. It’s a win-win situation.”

The story of how the program came into existence spotlights the cooperation of several individuals and departments eager to help Inland Empire residents attain maximum health.

“Zeid Kayali, MD, MBA, internist, hepatologist, and liver transplant medical director at the LLUMC Transplantation Institute, approached us about starting a program like this for patients awaiting liver transplant,” Dr. Gogineni recalled. “He felt that having this program would improve patient outcomes after surgery, and decrease the incidence of morbidity and mortality. We thought it was an outstanding idea.”

“When we were first approached by the Transplantation Institute,” Dr. Taheri shared, “we saw this as a great collaborative opportunity. First was the opportunity to provide high-quality patient care

through an inter-professional approach. Collaborations with other programs and disciplines across campus align complimentary skill sets and expertise, which ultimately leads to enhanced patient care. The second opportunity provided by this collaborative partnership is the rich educational environment created for students and residents. Along with Dr. Elvin Hernandez, Dr. Davis and Dr. Gogineni are involved in teaching a didactic curriculum for tobacco dependence treatment to educate future pharmacists about how to help their patients stop smoking.”

“In the forming stages, we also saw the research potential of working in the area of tobacco dependence treatment down the road,” Dr. Taheri added. “Because of the significant impact of smoking—both on the individual’s health as well as society’s burden—there are tremendous opportunities for research into the impact of such a focused clinic on outcomes.”

Although the Clinic for Tobacco Independence just opened in August, 2009, Drs. Davis and Gogineni report they already have a group of 15-20

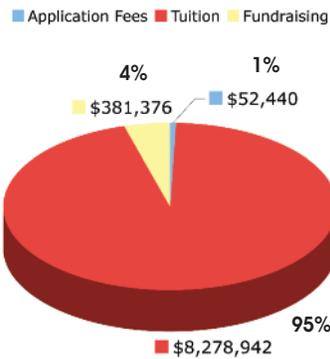
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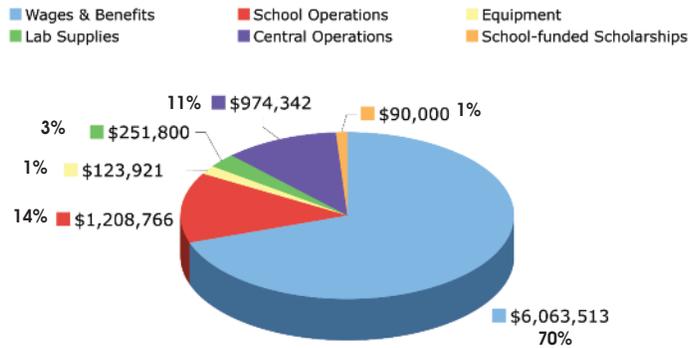
Dean Kinoshita takes a puff on the carbon monoxide monitor during a recent visit to the Clinic for Tobacco Independence. The Clinic, a service of the LLUMC Transplantation Institute, helps transplant patients prepare for surgery through enabling them to break the cycle of tobacco addiction. Drs. Hyma Gogineni (center) and Linda Davis were trained as tobacco treatment specialists at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

School of Pharmacy Financials

Income



Expenses



Total Philanthropy for 2008–2009



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School of Pharmacy hosts Preceptor Conference



Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy hosted a Preceptor Conference on May 6 in Wong Kerlee International Conference Center. Zubin Austin, PhD, University of Toronto, spoke about “Teaching and Learning Motivational Interviewing Skills.” The program provided pharmacists an illustration of the importance of making a patient feel comfortable and to illustrate strategies pharmacists can use to do this in order to encourage open, honest, uncensored communication. Forty one individuals attended the event. Pictured are Mark Buckton, PharmD, Walgreens preceptor; Zubin Austin, PhD, presenter; and Reza Taheri, PharmD, chair, department of pharmacotherapy and outcomes science.

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Pharmacy students make a difference for Moreno Valley residents

More than 75 residents of Moreno Valley received valuable health information and medication counseling from 60 Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy students and seven faculty members during a four-hour health fair on Sunday, May 17, 2009.

The health fair, sponsored by Walmart and staffed by School of Pharmacy faculty and student pharmacists, represented the first time the School's professional student organizations collaborated to provide community service.

Residents received diagnostic testing for such diseases as osteoporosis, diabetes, and hypertension. They also received counseling for cholesterol, cough and cold, asthma, heartburn, and managing their existing medica-



Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy PY1 student Christina Hakl counsels a Moreno Valley resident at the May 17 health fair. The health fair was sponsored by Walmart, and was staffed by 60 pharmacy students and seven faculty members. They were able to help more than 75 individuals in four hours.

tions. Each booth focused on a specific disease state and was managed by

one of the student professional organizations. One faculty member was also assigned to each booth to mentor the student pharmacists.

The economic impact of the health fair is significant because of the Moreno Valley residents' challenging financial situation. The socio-economic make up of Moreno Valley is primarily striving immigrant families: struggling families that are on a tight budget and work in service or skill-based jobs. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the unemployment rate in the Moreno Valley area is 12.6 percent, while the

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Alumni notes...

- ♦ **Jenny Ann Park, PharmD, SP'06:** After graduation, I moved to Seattle, WA for PGY1 general practice at Virginia Mason Medical Center (VMMC), and now work at one of their satellite clinics in Kirkland, WA. I manage anticoagulation, hypertension, and hyperlipidemia for over 200 patients. I am the primary preceptor for didactic training in the Anticoagulation Clinic for residents and pharmacy students that rotate through. In December, I will be attending ASHP midyear meeting and take the certified anticoagulation care provider exam.
- ♦ **Walanika Lum, PharmD, SP'08:** Following graduation and passing the NAPLEX and CPJE, I transferred from my inpatient graduate intern position to the 24 hour outpatient pharmacy as the full time graveyard pharmacist at Kaiser Foundations Hospitals, Riverside. The major difference in my position as the graveyard pharmacist versus the day and evening pharmacist is that I compound individual scripts for patients, as well as, dispense and counsel patients. My future interests are to eventually come back to LLU SP to be an instructor while concurrently practicing pharmacy in the community.
- ♦ **Pisey Ancheta, PharmD, SP '08:** I have completed a PGY1 at Desert Regional Medical Center in Palm Springs, Ca. Upon completion of my residency program, I was offered a full time position. Right now, I am one of the clinical pharmacists at Desert Regional and I am loving it! FYI...I just recently got married in July 2009 and thus the name change.



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Pharmacy students make a difference for Moreno Valley residents. . .

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national rate is 9.4 percent.

As well as providing lunch for the students, Walmart provided space for the health fair, raffle prizes, and the funds to cover the cost of finger sticks, allowing the students to determine the patients' blood glucose levels.

Day Gooch, PharmD, MBA, regional talent specialist for Walmart said, "It was fantastic to see Loma Linda students educating and spending time with the local people of Moreno Valley and providing knowledge that pharmacists provide every day in Walmart stores."

One of the organizers, Larry Rutebuka, PY3 student pharmacist said, "The impact affected both the students and patients. The patients especially benefited from the booths that gave them hard numbers, such as blood sugar, bone density, or blood pressure. These numbers led directly into productive patient counseling sessions."

While patients were receiving counseling, their children enjoyed face painting by students from the University of California at Riverside. The patients went from booth to booth, receiving a stamp on a card as they progressed.

After spending time at each booth, patients were given a goody bag with health information, OTC samples, and a raffle ticket.

Third year student pharmacist Nancy Fong said, "Many of the patients did not have adequate health care insurance. Being able to promote health awareness was a rewarding experience."

Seven School of Pharmacy faculty members took time from their weekend

schedules to participate alongside the student pharmacists. LaDonna Jones, PharmD, said, "Witnessing the collaboration of student organizations working together for a common goal is the epitome of what LLU strives to achieve."

In addition to organizing another similar fair again next year, the student pharmacists will also offer other smaller health fairs in cooperation with the School of Pharmacy and Walmart.



Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy PY1 students Connie Elejalde, Erin Carpenter, and Emily Garispe helped Moreno Valley residents with their diabetes. Having easy access to health information is a significant perk for a community that suffers from a higher-than-average unemployment rate.

Pharmacy professors help transplant patients kick smoking. . .

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potential patients in the liver transplant program. One of them, a patient by the name of Dean Kinoshita, is optimistic about the progress he's making under Dr. Gogineni's tutelage.

"My wife is very excited that I'm quitting cigarettes," Mr. Kinoshita noted. "She says she can already see the improvement."

Dr. Gogineni is optimistic about Mr. Kinoshita's prognosis for recovery. "He's only tried to quit once before," she said.

"His motivation is really high; he's feeling bad that his bad habit, as he calls it, has brought on his illness."

Dr. Davis pointed out that Dr. Gogineni will follow-up with Mr. Kinoshita on a weekly basis for the first eight weeks of his treatment regimen, then every three months for up to a year after that.

Although the Clinic for Tobacco Independence is currently only treating pre-liver transplant patients, Drs. Davis and Gogineni are optimistic about

expanding to wider horizons once the program gains momentum. "Hepatology patients aren't the only ones who need this," Dr. Gogineni exclaimed. "We'll expand it to meet the needs of other patients later on."

"We're very excited about this new opportunity," Dr. Taheri concluded. "When we think about the long-term affects of smoking, helping our patients go off tobacco is a very substantial way that we can significantly and positively impact their lives."